

## OPINION 811

RUNCINA FORBES, 1851 (GASTROPODA): VALIDATED UNDER THE  
PLENARY POWERS

**RULING.**—(1) Under the plenary powers the generic name *Pelta* Quatrefages, 1844, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority, but not for those of the Law of Homonymy.

(2) The generic name *Runcina* Forbes, 1851 (gender: feminine), type-species, by monotypy, *Runcina hancocki* Forbes, 1851, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number 1755.

(3) The specific name *coronata* Quatrefages, 1844, as published in the binomen *Pelta coronata*, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2196.

(4) The family name RUNCINIDAE (correction of RUNCINADAE) Gray, 1857 (type-genus *Runcina* Forbes, 1851) is hereby placed on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology with the Name Number 423.

(5) The generic name *Pelta* Quatrefages, 1844 (as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above) is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number 1904.

(6) The family name PELTIDAE [Winckworth], 1931 (type-genus *Pelta* Quatrefages, 1844) (invalid because the name of the type-genus has been suppressed under the plenary powers) is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology with the Name Number 432.

## HISTORY OF THE CASE (Z.N.(S.) 580)

The present case was submitted to the office of the Commission by Dr. Henning Lemche in June 1951. In September 1964 Dr. Lemche revised his application, and this was sent to the printer on 29 September 1964 and published on 5 April 1965 in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **22** : 49–50. Public Notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the present case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin*, as well as to the other prescribed serial publications (Constitution Art. 12b; *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **21** : 184) and to two malacological serials. The proposal put forward by Dr. Lemche as Alternative A was supported by Prof. H. Engel and Dr. J. Nijssen-Meyer. Alternative B was supported by J. L. Baily, Jr.

## DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 25 October 1966 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (66)60, in Part 1, either for or against the use of the plenary powers in the present case, and in Part 2, for either Alternative A or Alternative B, as set out in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **22** : 49–50. At the close of the prescribed voting period on 25 January 1967 the state of the voting was as follows:

Part 1. Affirmative votes—nineteen (19), received in the following order: China, Vokes, Lemche, Obruchev, Mayr, do Amaral, Tortonese, Jaczewski, Boschma, Alvarado, Uchida, Sabrosky, Stoll, Bonnet, Kraus, Mertens, Forest, Brinck, Evans.

Negative votes—three (3): Holthuis, Munroe, Ride.

Part 2. Votes for Alternative A—fourteen (14): Vokes, Lemche, Mayr, Tortonese, Jaczewski, Boschma, Alvarado, Stoll, Bonnet, Kraus, Mertens, Forest, Brinck, Evans.

Votes for Alternative B—five (5): China, Obruchev, do Amaral, Uchida, Sabrosky.

Voting Papers not returned—two (2): Hubbs, Simpson.

Commissioner Binder returned a late vote in favour of Alternative A. In returning his vote Dr. Holthuis made the following comment: "Alternative B is technically impossible. A family name cannot be suppressed as long as the generic name from which it is derived remains available. This would mean that a zoologist who recognizes *Runcina* as a genus distinct from *Pelta* cannot make it the type of a monotypic family. This constitutes a violation of freedom of taxonomic thought. The Commission could be asked to place both Peltidae and Runcinidae on the Official List with the annotation that the former is to be used in preference to the latter by those authors who think that *Pelta* and *Runcina* belong to the same family-group taxon. If Alternative B had the first paragraph worded in this way I would have been glad to vote for it."

#### ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for names placed on the Official Lists and Indexes by the Ruling given in the present Opinion:

*coronata*, *Pelta*, Quatrefages, 1844, *Ann. Sci. nat.*, Paris (Zool.) (3)1 : 151

*Pelta* Quatrefages, 1844, *Ann. Sci. nat.*, Paris (Zool.) (3)1 : 151

PELTIDAE [Winckworth], 1931, *Plymouth mar. Fauna* (ed. 2) : 267

*Runcina* Forbes, 1851, in Forbes & Hanley, *Hist. brit. Moll.* 3 : 611

RUNCINIDAE J. E. Gray, 1857, *Guide Syst. Distr. Moll. Brit. Mus.* : 205

#### CERTIFICATE

We certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (66)60 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that Voting Paper has been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 811.

G. OWEN EVANS  
Secretary

W. E. CHINA  
Assistant Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

London

17 February 1967